

We Claim:

1. A method for using a computer to reward commentary comprising:

(a) inputting commentary of a first user into the computer; and

(b) providing a payment from a second user to said first user.

2. The method of claim 1, in which (b) comprises:

inputting into the computer a payment identifier specifying a financial account of the second user, wherein a payment is provided to said first user using the payment identifier of said second user.

3. The method of claim 1, in which (a) comprises:

inputting commentary into the computer with a keyboard.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said computer is linked to the

Internet.

5. The method of claim 2, wherein said payment identifier is input

using at least one other computer linked to the Internet.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the inputted commentary is posted

on a web-page on the Internet.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said second user accesses the

inputted commentary of said first user through said web-page.

8. The method of claim 2, wherein said financial account is a credit

card account.

9. The method of claim 2, wherein said financial account is a bank account.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein (b) further comprises said second user purchasing pre-paid credits.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said first user may only be provided with payment from said second user for said commentary if said first user has purchased pre-paid credits to reward commentary, and said first user has un-rewarded pre-paid credits.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising notifying the first user if said second user attempts to reward said first user's commentary, but is not able to do so because said first user does not have un-rewarded pre-paid credits.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein said second user is notified when said second user's pre-paid credits have all been paid out.

14. The method of claim 1, in which (b) comprises:  
transferring payment from said second user to said first user.

15. An apparatus for rewarding commentary, comprising:  
a storage device; and  
a processor connected to the storage device, wherein the processor is operative to receive commentary of a first user, and to provide a payment from a second user to said first user.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, in which the processor is operative to receive a payment identifier specifying a financial account of the second user, and

to provide payment of said first user using the payment identifier of said second user.

5           17.    The apparatus of claim 15, in which the processor is operative to receive commentary of said first user through a keyboard.

          18.    The apparatus of claim 15, in which the processor is linked to the Internet.

10           19.    The apparatus of claim 16, in which the payment identifier is received using one or more computers linked to the Internet.

          20.    The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the received commentary is posted on a web-page on the Internet.

15           21.    The apparatus of claim 20, wherein said second user accesses the received commentary of said first user through said web-page.

          22.    The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said financial account is a credit  
20   card account.

          23.    The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said financial account is a bank account.

25           24.    The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said processor is further operative to allow said second user to purchase pre-paid credits.

          25.    The apparatus of claim 24, wherein said first user may only be provided with payment from said second user for said commentary if said first

user has purchased pre-paid credits to reward commentary, and said first user has un-rewarded pre-paid credits.

26. The apparatus of claim 25, further comprising notifying the first user if said second user attempts to reward said first user's commentary, but is not able to do so because said first user does not have un-rewarded pre-paid credits.

27. The apparatus of claim 24, wherein said second user is notified when said second user's pre-paid credits have all been paid out.

28. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said payment of said first user is provided by transferring payment from said second user to said first user.

29. A method for using a computer to reward commentary comprising:

- (a) inputting commentary of a first user into the computer;
- (b) inputting into the computer a payment identifier specifying a financial account of a second user;
- (c) allotting pre-paid credits to said second user by charging said second user's financial account for use of said credits; and
- (d) providing a payment to said first user using the pre-paid credits of said second user.

30. The method of claim 29, further including the step of said second user accessing the commentary of said first user.